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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,585	09/12/2003	Takashi Aizawa	03500.017570	7898

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EXAMINER	
LE, TUAN H	

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2622	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/660,585	Applicant(s) AIZAWA, TAKASHI	
	Examiner Tuan H. Le	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

The Examiner accepts applicant's amendments to the claims. More specifically, there are currently 1-18 pending claims in the amendments.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. More specifically, the limitation of "a data string which is usable to uniquely specify each of the plurality of data objects and is extracted from first data identification" is not disclosed in application's specification.

Claims 10, 11, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed

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invention. More specifically, the limitation of executing a logical calculation of path information of the data object" is not disclosed in application's specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lofgren et al (U.S. Pat. 6,664,976)

Regarding **claims 1, 7, 8, and 9** Lofgren et al discloses a digital information input system (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) including an information generating apparatus for transferring information of a plurality of data objects to an outside (see Lofgren et al, column 4 lines 1-2, wherein an image 10 captured by a camera from an aircraft is transmitted to ground 12 and stored on database 14) and an information processing apparatus (18), comprising:

identification information generating means(12a) for generating second data identification information (watermark ID) which is independent of a logical data management system existing in said information generating apparatus, on the basis of a data string which is usable to uniquely specify each of the plurality of data objects and is extracted from first data identification information (contents

of header file) which depends on the logical data management system, (see Lofgren, column 4 lines 8- 24, wherein the ID is in the range of 2-256 bits and correspondent to an image); and

identification information restoring means (18) for restoring the first data identification information (contents of header file) on the basis of the second data identification information (watermark ID) to uniquely specify each of the plurality of data objects in said information processing apparatus, (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 2 and column 5 lines 24-40, wherein given watermark ID1, contents of header file is retrieved).

Regarding **claim 2**, Lofgren et al discloses an information generating apparatus (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) for transferring information of a plurality of data objects to an outside, comprising:

identification information generating means (12a) for generating second data identification information (watermark ID) which is independent of a logical data management system existing in said information generating apparatus, on the basis of a data string which is usable to uniquely specify each of the plurality of data objects and is extracted from first data identification information (content of header file) which depends on said the logical data management system (see Lofgren et al, column 4 lines 1-2, wherein an image 10 captured by a camera from an aircraft is transmitted to ground 12 and stored on database 14); and

identification information restoring means (18) for restoring the first data identification information (contents of header file) on the basis of the second data

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identification information (watermark ID, see Lofgren et al, Fig. 2 and column 5 lines 24-40, wherein given watermark ID1, contents of header file is retrieved).

Regarding **claim 3**, Lofgren et al discloses a transmitting means (see Lofgren et al, column 4 lines 34-37, wherein a network is used) for transmitting the second data identification information to the outside (PC 18).

Regarding **claim 4**, Lofgren et al discloses receiving means (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 2, wherein a computer is connected to a network) for receiving the second data identification information from the outside (PC18).

Regarding **claim 5**, Lofgren et al discloses the second data identification information (watermark ID) is generated so as to include contents for specifying the plurality of data objects and specifying a storing location of the plurality of data objects in said logical data management system (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 2 and column 5 lines 24-40, wherein given watermark ID1, contents of header file is retrieved).

Regarding **claim 6**, Lofgren et al discloses that the information generating apparatus is a digital camera or a digital video camera, wherein the plurality of data objects are a plurality of image data captured by the digital camera or the digital video camera (see Lofgren, Fig. 1 column 1 lines 66 and 67, wherein it is inherent that a camera is used for capturing image 10).

Regarding **claims 10, 16, 17, and 18** Lofgren et al discloses a digital information input system (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) including an information generating apparatus for transferring information of a plurality of data objects to an outside (see Lofgren et al, column 4 lines 1-2, wherein an image 10

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captured by a camera from an aircraft is transmitted to ground 12 and stored on database 14) and an information processing apparatus (18), comprising:

identification information generating means (12a) for generating data object identification information (watermark ID) which is independent of a logical data management system (contents of header file) existing in said information generating apparatus (aerial platform, 12a, and 14), by executing a logical calculation of path information of the data object (Lofgren et al, Fig. 8 wherein a hash function), wherein the path information depends on the logical data management system; and

identification information restoring means (18) for restoring the path information (contents of header file) of the data object on the basis of the data object identification information (watermark ID).

Regarding **claim 11**, Lofgren et al discloses an information generating apparatus (see Lofgren et al, Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) for transferring information of plurality of data objects to outside, comprising:

identification information generating means (12a) for generating data object identification information (watermark ID) which is independent of a logical data management system (contents of header file), by executing a logical calculation of path information of the data object (Logren et al, Fig. 8, wherein a hash function is used), wherein the path information depends on the logical data management system; and

identification information restoring means (12a) for restoring the path information (contents of header file) of the data object on the basis of the data object identification information (watermark ID).

Regarding **claim 12**, Lofgren et al discloses transmitting means (see Lofgren et al, column 4 lines 34-37 wherein a network is used) for transmitting the data object identification information to the outside (18)

Regarding **claim 13**, Lofgren et al discloses (Lofgren et al, Fig.2 wherein a computer is connected to a network) receiving means for receiving the data object identification information from the outside (18).

Regarding **claim 14**, Lofgren et al discloses the second data identification information (watermark ID) is generated so as to include contents for specifying the data object and specifying a storing location of the data object in the logical data management system (Lofgren et al, Fig. 2, and column 5 lines 24-40, wherein given watermark ID1, contents of header file is retrieved).

Regarding **claim 15**, Lofgren et al discloses that the information generating apparatus is a digital camera or a digital video camera and the data object is a plurality of image data captured by the digital camera or the digital video camera (see Lofgren, Fig. 1 column 1 lines 66 and 67, wherein it is inherent that a camera is used for capturing image 10).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. 6,199,082 and U.S. Pub. 2003/014005.

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Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan H. Le whose telephone number is (571) 270-1130. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30-5:00 F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tuan Le/
Patent Examiner



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER